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Budget Minutes 12/6/2011

Approved Minutes 1/11/2012

Arlington School Committee
Budget Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday December 6th, 2011 at 5:00 pm

Attendance

Subcommittee Members:

Chair:Kirsi Allison-Ampe MD, Leba Heigham, Judson Pierce

APS Staff: Dr Kathleen Bodie, Superintendent
Diane Johnson Chief Business Officer joined the meeting at 5:20pm.

Fin Comm Representative: Richard Fanning

Meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm.

There were no requests for public participation.

Discussion about reserves:

Dr Ampe made a proposal to create two Reserve accounts. One would be for ensuring SpEd Circuit Breaker stability, one would be for Special Education extraordinary expenses. Accounts would be funded by the remaining funds from Circuit breaker FY11 and the unbudgeted amount of Circuit breaker FY12.

Mr Fanning commented that the Town Comptroller had expressed that the only way reserve accounts could be created or funded was via Town Meeting actions. He also discussed the existing SpEd Reserve account that was created by Article 52 in 2006 and is currently unfunded. Ms Heigham expressed concern about having two separate reserve accounts targeted for SpEd expenses. She felt we needed to consult with legal services about fund structuring. Ms Heigham also proposed a different method determining a maximum amount for the funds.

Ms Johnson felt we needed to discuss options with the DOR. She and Dr Bodie felt that the Circuit breaker fund could be managed using the State Circuit Breaker account. Dr Ampe discussed writing a warrant article for Town Meeting 2012 to enable SpEd Extraordinary Expenses funds to be placed in the Article 52 account. Dr Ampe and Ms Johnson are to explore reserve account options.

Dr Bodie and Mr Pierce had to leave at 5:45pm because of other obligations.

Calendar: the FY13 Budget Calendar was discussed and revised. The next draft will be presented at the next Budget Subcommittee meeting.

The agenda and scheduling for the next meeting were deferred to later.

New business: draft minutes for Budget Subcommittee meeting 6/27/11 were distributed but not discussed.

Motion to adjourn made by Ms Heigham, seconded by Dr Ampe, passed 2-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:10pm.

